



SPAWN

image
239
DIGITAL
EDITION

NEW YORK CLASH
"SOUNDING THE CALL DAILY"
EVENING EDITION

NY'S SEXIEST SAVIOR
OWNING DOES IT AGAIN!

Holy Healer

Miracle Making

Healer

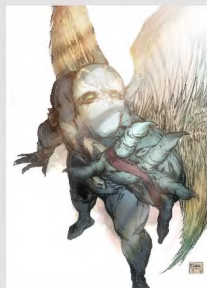
Makes Waves

owning: Devil in Disguise

Origins of Healer's Powers

Local Man 'Heals' Accident Victim

McFARLANE
FOR



PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

Still at the site of the Dead Zone in Jim's foundation construction site, Cogliostro explains the vast history of why all Dead Zones were created. It's a twisted tale of greed, sin, and anger, but it helps Jim understand the root of what he now is.

After learning why Bludd was trying to hide this particular Dead Zone, it's now up to Jim to either stand by idly, or decide to put a wrench in Bludd's plans.



Jim Downing (Spawn) – A man whose past is shrouded in mystery, and connected intimately to the very fabric of the Spawn mythos, Jim is the world's newest Hellspawn...and so much more. Having spent years in a deep coma, Jim's main drive is piecing together the fragments of the man he was, in an effort to discover the man he truly is.



Daniel Kilgore – A lapsed priest with a "haunting" secret, Daniel Kilgore has been drawn to something sinister lurking in the shadows of New York City. What, if any connection he has to Jim Downing remains to be seen, but this quiet, solemn young man just may be a bigger threat than anyone realizes.



Cogliostro – Once locked in a tower in Hell, the ultimate Hellspawn mentor has mysteriously returned to guide the newest Hellspawn, Jim Downing. However, his motivations are not yet clear, leaving Jim to wonder if Cog can be trusted.



Dead Zone – A celestial safe zone, which neutralizes both agents of Heaven and Hell's powers. Several Dead Zones exist, though few have been revealed. These portals allow Heaven and Hell to place each other's pieces (agents) on the board (Earth), but they're full origin story may alter the game in a way no one's imagined.



Father Halwell – A representative from the Vatican who has been dispatched to communicate the desires of the Church with Jim, in an effort to gauge the true nature of his "gifts". Using Sara's faith as leverage, Halwell is hoping to further the Church's agenda – an agenda that may be more nefarious than anyone knows.

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HOW DID HALLWELL TAKE THE NEWS?

NOT WELL.



THAT WAS TO BE EXPECTED.

HIS PROBLEM IS HE THINKS TIME *DOESN'T* MATTER. THAT ALL OF THIS IS GOING TO JUST WAIT 'TIL HE'S DONE HIS PART. HE'S BEING NAIVE. WE DON'T FIGURE OUT HOW TO CONTAIN THIS SOON, WE MIGHT NOT GET ANOTHER CHANCE.

SO...



...I HEARD THE INVOCATION WORKED?




NOT ON ITS OWN-- BUT FATHER GREGORY DID HIS RITUAL.

AND THE BEING FROM THE SHADOWS, DO WE KNOW WHERE HE'S FROM?



NOT YET. HE HASN'T BEEN WILLING TO TALK.



THOUGH
FATHER GREGORY
THINKS HE MIGHT
COME FROM THE
MEDIEVAL
TIMES!



SO IF
BLUDD FIGURES
OUT HOW TO UNLOCK
THIS ENTRANCE... YOU'RE
SAYING IT MIGHT
LEAD TO GOD?

IT DOES
LEAD TO
GOD!

YOU CAN CHOOSE
TO BELIEVE THAT OR NOT. IT
WON'T CHANGE THE FACTS! WHY
DO YOU THINK I PULLED YOU FROM
THE RIVER? MORE IMPORTANTLY
WHY WERE YOU IN THE RIVER IN
THE FIRST PLACE?!

BECAUSE...

BECAUSE
OF MY
COSTUME.

YES!
BECAUSE OF
YOUR DAMNED
COSTUME! YOU
WANT RID OF IT,
DON'T YOU? IT'S
RUINING YOUR
LIFE. SCREWING
WITH YOUR
MIND!

WELL...
WELCOME TO
THE CLUB! YOU
KNOW HOW LONG
I FOUGHT MINE
BEFORE I REALIZED
IT'LL NEVER GO AWAY.
THE BEST YOU CAN
DO IS TAME IT.
MAKE IT WORK
FOR YOU.



CURRENTLY
IT'S THE
OTHER WAY
AROUND.



MY BET--
HE STILL EXISTS
SOMEPLACE AND HIS
SYMBIOTE'S STILL
WITH HIM.

AND IF THAT
DOESN'T SCARE
YOU, THEN THINK
ABOUT THOSE YOU
CARE FOR. C'MON--
YOU'RE A SMART GUY.
YOU THINK YOU CAN
LEAD A NORMAL
LIFE **AND** BE
SPAWN AT THE
SAME TIME?

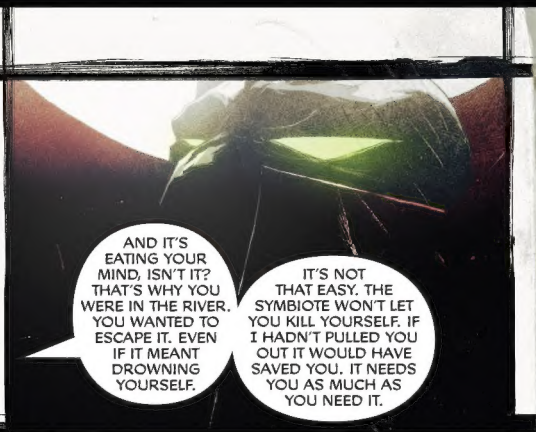
I DON'T
WANT TO
BE
SPAWN.

IT DOESN'T MATTER!
DON'T YOU GET THAT? YOU WERE
CHOSEN. I DON'T KNOW HOW OR WHY BUT
SOMEHOW SIMMONS PASSED HIS POWERS
TO YOU. AND BEFORE YOU THINK YOU
CAN JUST GET RID OF THEM LIKE
SIMMONS... THINK AGAIN!



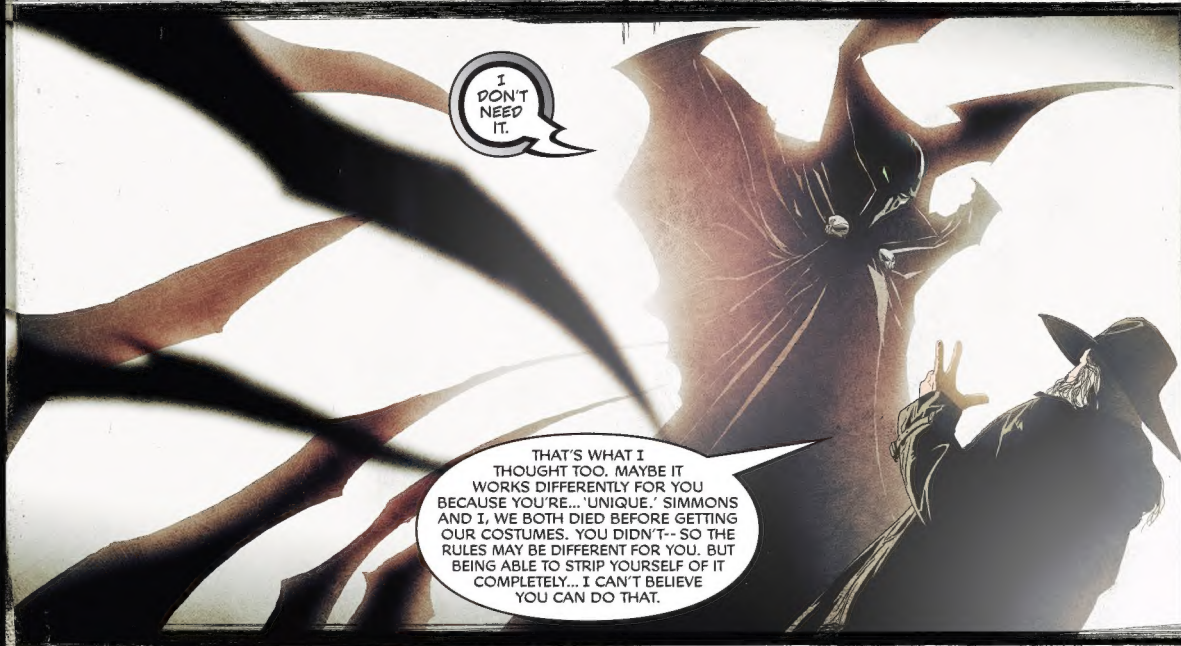


THE PIECE
HE GAVE YOU
JUST GREW.



AND IT'S
EATING YOUR
MIND, ISN'T IT?
THAT'S WHY YOU
WERE IN THE RIVER.
YOU WANTED TO
ESCAPE IT. EVEN
IF IT MEANT
DROWNING
YOURSELF.

IT'S NOT
THAT EASY. THE
SYMBIOTE WON'T LET
YOU KILL YOURSELF. IF
I HADN'T PULLED YOU
OUT IT WOULD HAVE
SAVED YOU. IT NEEDS
YOU AS MUCH AS
YOU NEED IT.



I
DON'T
NEED
IT.

THAT'S WHAT I
THOUGHT TOO. MAYBE IT
WORKS DIFFERENTLY FOR YOU
BECAUSE YOU'RE... 'UNIQUE.' SIMMONS
AND I, WE BOTH DIED BEFORE GETTING
OUR COSTUMES. YOU DIDN'T-- SO THE
RULES MAY BE DIFFERENT FOR YOU. BUT
BEING ABLE TO STRIP YOURSELF OF IT
COMPLETELY... I CAN'T BELIEVE
YOU CAN DO THAT.



TELL YOUR
COSTUME TO GO
AWAY. I NEED
TO TRY SOME-
THING.



**KILL
ME!**

BRING YOUR
COSTUME BACK
AND LET IT TRY AND
**KILL
ME!**

GOD
DAMN YOU!
DO IT NOW
BEFORE I
CUT YOU IN
HALF!



YOU CAN'T--
CAN YOU? I TOLD
YOU IT DOESN'T WORK
HERE. NOT IN THE
'DEAD ZONE.'



YOUR
SYMBIOTE CAN'T
PROTECT YOU-- EVEN
IF YOU WANTED
IT TO. IT HAS NO POWER
OVER YOU. REMEMBER
HOW THIS FEELS
RIGHT NOW!

BECAUSE
THAT'S HOW
IT NEEDS TO FEEL
TO YOU ALL
THE TIME!



YOU MUST
CONTROL IT.
ALWAYS!



WHY...
ARE
YOU
DOING
THIS?



BECAUSE
YOU'RE
DIFFERENT.

MY SWORD!
DO YOU SEE IT?
LOOK AT ME! DO YOU
SEE IT? IT SHOULDN'T
EXIST. NOT HERE--
NOT NOW!

THE ONLY
REASON IT DOES
IS BECAUSE I'M NEAR
YOU. YOU HAVE MORE
POWER THAN ANY OF US WILL
EVER KNOW. AND IF YOU
CAN SOMEHOW FIGURE OUT
HOW TO HARNESS THAT
POWER THEN MAYBE...
JUST MAYBE... YOU CAN
FREE US BOTH FROM
OUR CURSE.

Long Island, New York.



**KNOK
KNOK**



HELLO?

ARE YOU
THE ONE I
TALKED WITH
ON THE
PHONE?



YES, MA'AM.
MY NAME IS
DANIEL KILGORE. *
THANK YOU FOR
GIVING ME A FEW
MINUTES.

*A.K.A. Haunt



IT'S NO
BOTHER.
ESPECIALLY SINCE
DOCTOR McVEY
SPOKE SO HIGHLY
OF YOU. PLEASE!...
COME IN.

THANKS.
I HOPE I'M
NOT BOTHERING
YOU OR YOUR
HUSBAND.

HEAVENS
NO! EVER SINCE
HE'S BEEN OUT OF
THE HOSPITAL HE'S
HAD THE ENERGY
OF A TWENTY
YEAR OLD...

Though I
wish he had
the body of one
too. But don't
tell him I said
that.



I'LL
GO GET
HIM FOR
YOU.



YOU SAID YOU WERE INTERESTED IN DOING SOME FOLLOW UP WITH HIM?

THAT'S ALL. I'M CHECKING ON ALL OF THE PATIENTS THAT WERE IN CONTACT WITH MR. DOWNING WHEN HE SHARED A ROOM WITH THEM.

HE'S BECOMING A BIG STAR... ISN'T HE?



BENNY, THAT PRIEST IS HERE I TOLD YOU ABOUT. AND PUT AWAY THAT CANE, I WAS JUST BRAGGING ABOUT YOUR HEALTH.

OLD HABIT. MAKES ME COMFORTABLE.



MORNING, MR. CHEN, THANK YOU FOR LETTING ME COME OVER AND ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS.

HOW YOU BEEN FEELING LATELY?

GOOD. ACTUALLY GREAT, THANKS TO MR. DOWNING.



SOMEDAY I NEED TO THANK HIM PERSONALLY FOR WHAT HE DID FOR ME.



uh...



SOME-
THING
WRONG,
SON?

YOU LOOK
LIKE YOU'VE
SEEN A
GHOST.



THIS IS STUPID!

SO YOU KEEP SAYING.

WHY COULDN'T HE SEND HIS OWN CREW?

IT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY. HOW MANY TIMES WE HAVE TO GO OVER THIS? BESIDES, WHO CARES WHO **BLUDD** RECRUITS-- AS LONG AS IT HELPS US.

I GUESS THAT'S WHERE YOU AND I DISAGREE. I DON'T THINK THIS HELPS. I THINK **BLUDD**'S PLAYING US.

OH YEAH?



YEAH! I KNOW YOU DON'T SEE IT, BUT HE'S USING US. AND I'M STARTING TO GET TIRED OF IT. WE SHOULD BE LOOKING FOR OUR BROTHER, NOT **JERKING OFF** OUT HERE!

THE PROBLEM WITH YOU IS YOU'RE TOO THICK TO UNDERSTAND THIS'LL HELP US FIND HIM.*

*Their brother was taken by Spawn In Issue 213 -- TODD



THE MORE DISTRACTIONS **SPAWN** HAS THE BETTER. THEN WE NAIL HIM AS HARD AS WE CAN UNTIL HE SHOWS US WHERE HE'S HIDING **FREDDIE**.

SO PUT A LID ON IT FOR NOW.



WE'RE BEING WATCHED.

YOU'RE RIGHT... I SMELL THEM.



HERE THEY COME. TRY AND CONTROL YOURSELF.



* Translated from Ukrainian





< ALL RIGHT, GENTLEMEN. KEEP YOUR HANDS UP AND FOLLOW US. >

ARE WE SUPPOSED TO UNDERSTAND THESE PRICKS?

YOU SHOULD-- REMEMBER WE WERE HERE ABOUT 700 YEARS AGO DURING THAT ONE MISSION?



< ROOFTOP 3, THIS IS ROOFTOP 5... THEY MAKE ANY SUDDEN MOVES... SHOOT THEM! >



< AND MAKE SURE IT'S A HEAD SHOT. IT'S THE ONLY WAY THEY DIE. >

< GOT IT. >



I'M SUPPOSED TO REMEMBER WHAT WE DID 700 YEARS AGO? REALLY?



YOU SHOULD. THAT'S WHERE YOU WIPED OUT THAT ARMY WHEN YOUR ARM WAS BROKEN.

THAT'S RIGHT!... WASN'T IT THAT TIME THEY TRIED LIGHTING ME ON FIRE AND CUTTING ME IN HALF? THOSE GUYS WERE A BUNCH OF LOSERS! I WASN'T THERE LONG ENOUGH TO PICK UP THEIR LANGUAGE.

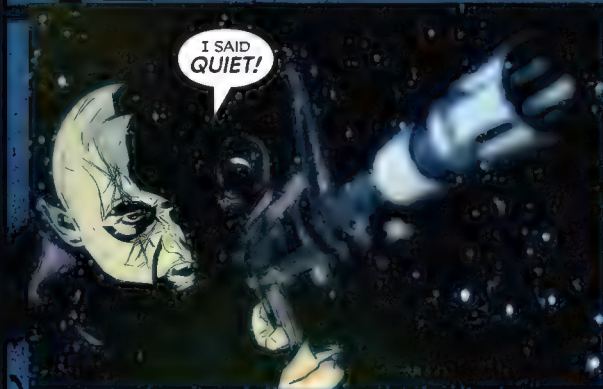
< QUIET! >



I SEEM TO RECALL YOU WERE THERE LONG ENOUGH TO... UH... SHOW A FEW LADIES YOUR 'DEMON DONG'.

I DO THAT EVERYWHERE I GO.

WAIT? WAS SHE THE ONE WITH THE 'UNIBROW'?! WOW...! NOW I REMEMBER-- SHE WAS AWESOME! A LITTLE UGLY... BUT OTHERWISE AWESOME!



I SAID QUIET!



OH, SO NOW WE'RE GOING TO SPEAK NORMAL. ABOUT TIME.



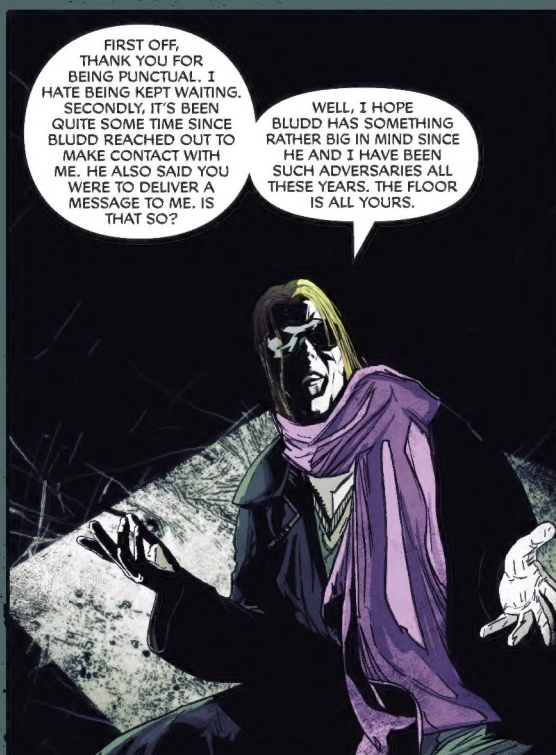
NORMAL? IS THAT A JOKE? YOU'RE THE ONES THAT DON'T BELONG HERE. WHAT'S THE MATTER, BLUDD TOO AFRAID TO SEND SOME OF HIS OWN TO GREET US?

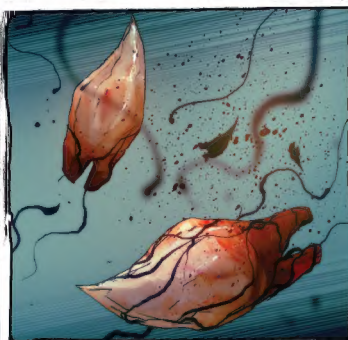
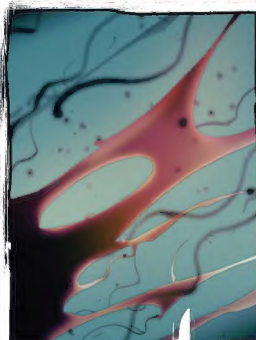
OR ARE YOU TWO JUST THAT EXPENDABLE?

YOU'RE RIGHT. YOU'RE THE TOUGH GUYS. WE'RE JUST PUSSIES. DON'T MIND US.

THAT'S NOT WHAT THEY TOLD US. YOU'RE MORE THAN JUST PUSSIES. THAT'S WHY THERE ARE TEN GUNS TRAINED ON YOUR HEADS. NOW KEEP MOVING!







BLUDD
WANTS A
TRUCE!

YOUR PEOPLE
JOIN HIS FOR SIX
MONTHS AND HE SAID
HELL HAND OVER WHAT
YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING
FOR. IF NOT...

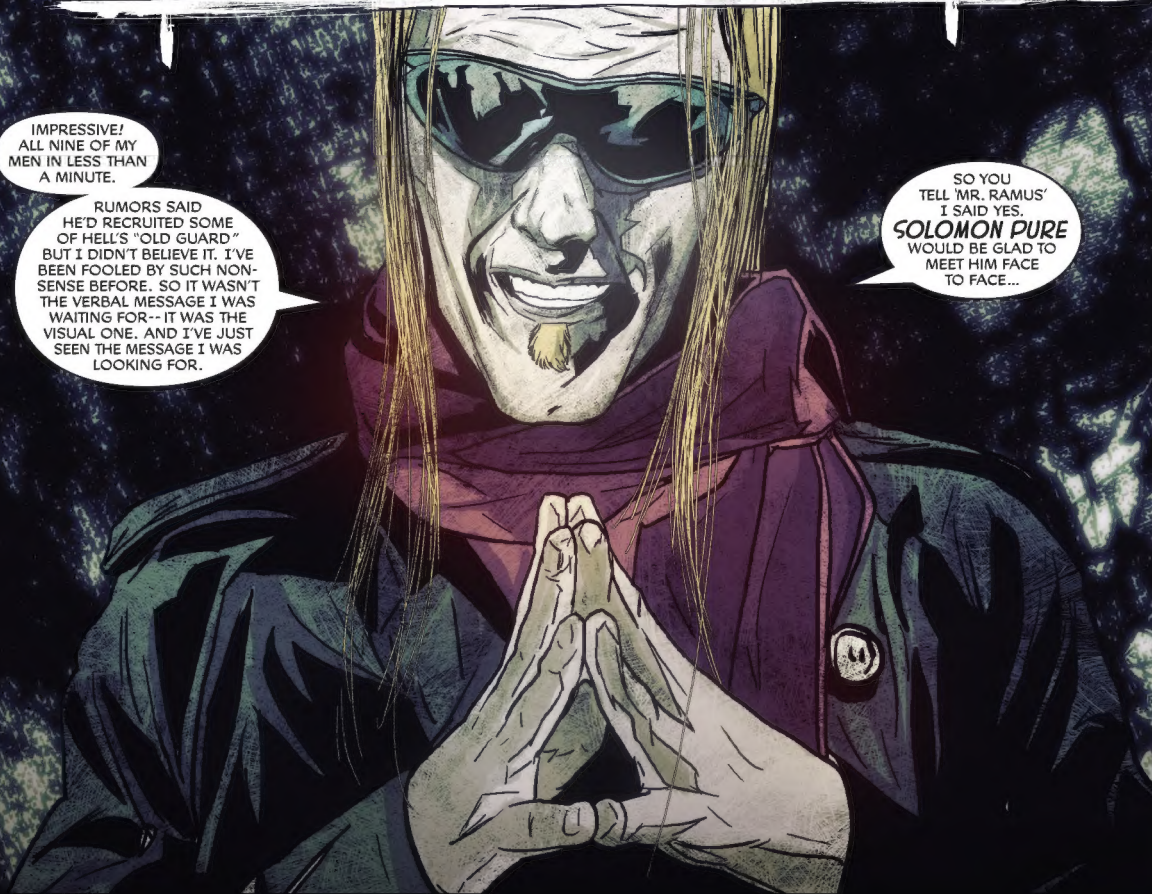
...WE
KEEP KILLING
YOUR SIDE
UNTIL YOU
SAY YES.



IMPRESSIVE!
ALL NINE OF MY
MEN IN LESS THAN
A MINUTE.

RUMORS SAID
HE'D RECRUITED SOME
OF HELL'S "OLD GUARD"
BUT I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT. I'VE
BEEN FOOLED BY SUCH NON-
SENSE BEFORE. SO IT WASN'T
THE VERBAL MESSAGE I WAS
WAITING FOR--IT WAS THE
VISUAL ONE. AND I'VE JUST
SEEN THE MESSAGE I WAS
LOOKING FOR.

SO YOU
TELL 'MR. RAMUS'
I SAID YES.
SOLOMON PURE
WOULD BE GLAD TO
MEET HIM FACE
TO FACE...



...SEE, IT'S NOT EVERY DAY THE TWO STRAINS OF VAMPIRES HAVE A COMMON PURPOSE. HELL, I'VE BEEN BATTLING BLUDD MY WHOLE LIFE, BUT IN ALL THAT TIME HE'S NEVER OFFERED AN OPEN HAND. SO, EITHER HE'S DESPERATE AND DOESN'T BELIEVE HE CAN BEAT ME **OR** AS I'VE BEEN HEARING--HE'S FOUND SOMETHING SO VALUABLE THAT THE ONLY WAY HE CAN UNLOCK IT IS WITH MY HELP.

EITHER WAY,
I'M IN!

THIS SHOULD BE FUN!

TO BE CONTINUED





Tyrant
Lizard
King

EMPIRE